

CITY *Visions*

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL • APRIL 2002

Money Matters

How Is The Fiscal Budget Developed?

The Finance Department began its budget process for Fiscal Year 2002/03 in January. The process started by looking at the current economy and projecting revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year. In light of the current recession, the Council has adopted a budget strategy of combining cuts in spending with the use of reserves established for such contingencies.

The next step is for all departments to submit appropriation requests which meet their budget targets. Once the City Manager and department directors review the requests, copies of the Proposed Budget document are produced and sent to the City Council.

At this time, the budget will also be available to the general public for review. Subsequently, City staff will coordinate a gen-

SEE "BUDGET", PAGE 2

What's With The Water?

Hydrant testing coming soon

It's nearing that time of year when fire crews will be testing our fire hydrants to ensure that they're working properly. When a fire occurs, fire fighters need the hydrants to work properly.




Unfortunately, this testing sometimes temporarily affects the color of the water coming out of your tap due to the greater-than-normal water flow through the water main when a hydrant is tested. This extra flow of water occasionally picks up additional sediment.

SEE "WATER", PAGE 2

An Updated Image For The City of Morgan Hill

THE CITY has adopted a new logo for use on all correspondence, vehicles, facilities, and signs. This design was chosen because it presents a professional and progressive image for the City. Depending on the application, it will appear in either black or a combination of green and black.

In order to minimize the costs of this transition, printed materials, uniforms, and other items featuring the old logo will be used up and then replenished with the new logo replacements during the next sixteen months. 

Article by Anthony Eulo, Assistant To The City Manager, 779-7247 or teulo@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov




The City of Morgan Hill recently adopted a new logo, shown above.

Celebrate National Volunteer Week

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers at the local, state and national levels. This year's National Volunteer Week theme - "Celebrate the American Spirit - Volunteer!" - is particularly appropriate as we continue to witness the outpouring of contributions and compassion following the September

11, 2001 attack on our country. It is hoped that through National Volunteer Week, we can inspire those who shared their time and talents to help heal our communities and encourage others to do the same.

To learn more about how you can help make positive change through volunteering at the local level contact the City of Morgan Hill, Volunteer Services Program at 779-7278 ext. 459 or www.ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov or the Volunteer Center of Silicon Valley at 408-247-1126 or www.vcsv.org. At the state level, contact the State of California at www.ca.gov, or at the national level contact the Points of Light Foundation at www.pointsoflight.org. 



• Article by Karen Lengsfeld, Volunteer Services Coordinator, 779-7278 or Lengsfeld@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

"BUDGET", FROM PAGE 1

eral workshop and explain the budget to the City Council. The City Council will hold a public hearing in early June, and the budget should be adopted in mid-June.

(Preliminary) Key dates to remember:

- MAY 15TH:** PROPOSED BUDGET PRESENTATION AT THE GENERAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 5TH: PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET
JUNE 19: PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR COUNCIL ADOPTION

These dates are preliminary, so please check with the Finance Department at a later time for confirmed dates. 


• Article by Chu Thai, Budget Manager, 779-7221 or Thaic@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

"WATER", FROM PAGE 1

If this discoloration occurs, let your tap run until your water runs clear. If problems persist, don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Department at 776-7337.

Are your pipes about to burst?

Have you checked your water pressure regulator? A simple test can help prevent damage that might occur from high water pressure. The pressure in the water system needs to be kept high enough to get adequate flow to the furthest and highest points in your geographic area. Your water pressure regulator is one of your home's vital functional attachments that ensures that the pressure inside of your home's pipes does not exceed its capabilities. It is your responsibility to regularly inspect the regulator.

Contact the Public Works Department for a one-sheet description that tells how to perform this test. We'll even loan you a test gauge at no charge! Call 776-7337 and leave us your name and address. This sheet can also be downloaded from the City web site at www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/whatsnew.htm and follow the link that says "Test Your Water Regulator." 

• Article by Jay Jaso, Management Analyst, 776-7337 or jayi@pw.morgan-hill.ca.gov

The Local Environmentalist

PULL OUT & SAVE SECTION



What's Inside?

Recycle Days

What do you do with that old computer?

Household Hazardous Waste

Please don't toss that old paint in the trash!

Yard Trimmings Recycling

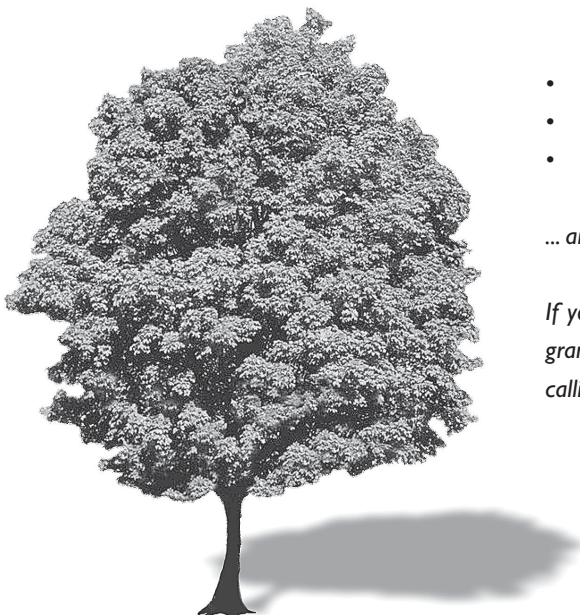
From grass clippings to fallen leaves - made easy

City Beautification Day

Ready for a day of friends and fun?

Sight Pollution?

Is that "Garage Sale" sign illegal?




DID YOU ever want to be a hero? Well, we think those who make an effort to protect our fragile environment are heroes to our next generation and beyond.

Simple things, like not polluting our streams with motor oil and putting your cans and bottles into your recycling bin, can make a big difference.

Did you know The City of Morgan Hill offers its residents and businesses free recycling programs? Some of these programs include:

- Business Recycling Programs Such As:
Cardboard, Beverage Container, Mixed Paper and Recycling, Informational Signs, Bilingual Janitor Instructions, and Green Business Program Certification.
- Curbside/Residential Recycling Such As:
Plastic, Aseptic, Metal Can, Glass, Cardboard, Mixed Paper, Newspaper, Yard Waste, Used Oil & Oil Filter Recycling.
- Multi Family Complex Recycling Programs
- Hazardous Waste Management Programs
- Recycle Days

... and the best part? They're free.

If you need more information about any of the recycling programs offered through The City of Morgan Hill, it's as simple as calling 779.7247. 

New Household Hazardous Waste Facility Opening in South County

South County residents will now have a convenient option for hazardous waste disposal at the new waste facility.



It is often possible to avoid the use of hazardous materials in your home altogether. Visit these websites for more information or call 779-7247.

"A Consumer Guide To Safer Alternatives To Hazardous Household Products": <http://es.epa.gov/new/contacts/newsletters/shopping.html>

A site on integrated pest management developed by the University of California: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>

A site on pesticide alternatives: <http://www.pesticide.org/factsheets.html#alternatives>



WE ARE pleased to announce that Santa Clara County is opening a permanent household hazardous waste facility here in South County. Since this facility will be open one weekend every month, this is great news for Morgan Hill residents and quite an increase in convenience.

As most of us know, household hazardous wastes are unwanted household products that are labeled as flammable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive.

The most common products include: aerosols, antifreeze, asbestos, batteries, cleaners, fertilizers, motor oil, paint supplies, pesticides, photochemicals, poisons, resins, and solvents. These materials should **never** be thrown away with your normal household trash or poured down the drain.

If you have household hazardous waste, you can call the Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 299-7300 to schedule an appointment at the new South County Facility.

• Article by Anthony Eulo, Assistant To The City Manager, 779-7247 or teulo@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

Yard Trimmings Aren't Trash

KEEPING YARD trimmings out of the trash is an important part of the City's recycling efforts. Although many Morgan Hill residents properly recycle their yard trimmings, we know some residents still place yard trimmings in their regular trash.

Recycling yard trimmings is simple! Just put trimmings, such as grass clippings, leaves and small twigs*, in your large green wheeled-toter.

Yard trimmings are collected every other week on your recycling day.

Just put your toter at your curb with your other recycling collection containers.

Please don't put yard trimmings with your regular trash. South Valley Disposal & Recycling won't collect your regular garbage if it contains yard trimmings. That means if you place yard trimmings in with your garbage, there is a good chance that your garbage won't be collected!

Recycling not only protects our environment, it protects our city's financial resources. Want to feel good about the world we leave our children? Do your part and reduce, reuse and recycle.

* Small branches can be tied into 3' x 3' bundles and placed next to your toter. Branch diameter needs to be less than 6 inches or they can damage equipment.



Recycle Days Here Again!

ON FRIDAY, May 3 and Saturday, May 4, City of Morgan Hill residents will be able to drop off a variety of recyclable items at the San Martin Transfer Station free of charge. The transfer station is located at 14070 Llagas Avenue in San Martin, and is open 8am-4:30pm.

RECYCLE DAYS

MAY 3 & 4, 2002, 8AM-4:30PM
SAN MARTIN TRANSFER STATION
14070 LLAGAS AVENUE, SAN MARTIN



What Can I Bring To Recycle Days?

- Untreated, unfinished, and unpainted wood.
- Metal appliances such as refrigerators, air conditioners, washers, dryers, and hot water heaters. There will be a \$15 charge for certification of Freon removal from appliances that contain or at one time contained Freon.
- Scrap metal: This includes bicycles, metal lawn mowers (fuel & oil removed), microwaves, or any item that contains over 50% metal.
- Computer Equipment: There will be a \$5.00 disposal fee collected for each monitor. Monitors with broken or cracked glass will not be accepted.
- Televisions: There will be a \$15.00 disposal fee collected for each television. Televisions with broken or cracked glass will not be accepted.
- Small household electronics: Stereos, VCR's, telephones, cameras, alarm clocks, fax machines, etc.



What Can't I Bring?

- Household hazardous waste. If you have hazardous waste, call the SC County Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 299-7300.
- Treated, Painted or Compressed Wood, Plywood, or Particle Board.
- Trees, tree stumps, or yard waste.
- Plastics such as toys, lawn furniture, water softeners or pools.



How Do I Participate?


- You must reside within the City limits.
- Your garbage account must be current (no past due balance).
- Be prepared to show your driver's license.
- Bring residential recyclables only.
- Event staff will have a list of customers printed to verify residence.

What Else Do I Need To Know?



If you bring in more than one material, please have them separated in your vehicle. You will need to drive to several areas at the transfer station to drop off recyclables in the appropriate areas. Commingled material may be charged as garbage unless it is separated.

Recycle Days is only for listed materials which are properly separated and sorted. Residents bringing other materials will be charged for disposal at the normal transfer station rates. Loads are inspected and the Transfer Station reserves the right to refuse items that are not accepted by their recycling contractors.

For more information, contact the Environmental Programs Division at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morganhill.ca.gov. 



Is That "GARAGE SALE" Sign Illegal?

DID YOU know that the installation of "Garage Sale" signs and any other similar type sign, on any pole or post in the public right-of-way is prohibited? It is also illegal to place directional signs, private party advertisements, event promotions, work at home, own a computer, real estate advertisements, job opportunities or other such signs on medians, street barricades or on any structure located within the public right-of-way. There are many reasons why installing a sign in the public right-of-way is prohibited:

1. *Posting additional signs within the public way or on city traffic signals and signs can create confusion, distract vehicle traffic and create hazards to pedestrians, especially children in residential neighborhoods.*
2. *The use of adhesive tapes often damage the paint finish on City, Utility Company or privately owned equipment.*
3. *The uses of nails and staples often damages trees and telephone poles. In cases of emergency they have caused injury to utility or City Maintenance crews.*
4. *The use of stakes to post signs can damage landscape irrigation systems as well as low voltage wiring systems.*
5. *Paper & cardboard signs that are commonly used often become litter when they become detached.*
6. *Signs have commonly not been removed after the event and do not enhance the community's appearance.*

Removal of illegal signs is currently a primary responsibility of the City's Code Enforcement Officer. With the assistance of Community Service Officers and Public Works employees, hundreds of illegally placed signs were removed from the public right-of-way this year and dozens of warnings were issued to the responsible parties. In some cases a citation has been issued if the sign installer had been previously warned. In addition to removing signs illegally placed in the right-of-way, the Code Enforcement Officer has established agreements with many property owners that allow any illegally installed signs to be removed from their privately owned property without delay.


Because Code Enforcement and Community Service Officers may not drive by your street on a daily basis, they may be unaware when illegal signs have been posted. You can help the City by reporting the illegal sign to Code Enforcement

at 779-7241 Monday through Friday. On weekends, you may contact the Morgan Hill Police Department at 779-2101. Reported illegal signs will likely be removed within 24 hrs.

WHAT ABOUT LOST PET POSTERS?

When you have lost a pet and want to notify the residents in your neighborhood, please consider the following;




1. *Immediately contact the local Animal Shelter at 683-4186 or Animal Control at 776-7300 to see if your pet has already been found.*
2. *Find a photograph of the missing pet or write down a description. Have your family members and friends assist you with distributing the information to your neighbors personally.*
3. *Place a lost & found ad in the local news papers.* 

• Article by Steve Pennington, Code Enforcement Officer, 779-7241, SteveP@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

City Beautification Day

City Beautification Day is an opportunity to help with projects throughout the City which enhance our community's appearance. Projects can include tree or shrub planting, cleanup and painting, and vegetation trimming. To learn more, contact the Environmental Programs Division at 779-7247. Join us and have some fun!



April 20th 2002

8AM - 12NOON

COMMUNITY GUIDE

CHANNEL 17 PROGRAMMING

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION: 4/3 7PM LIVE
4/4 NOON REPLAY
4/6 8PM REPLAY
4/7 NOON REPLAY

REGULAR SESSION: 4/17 7PM LIVE
4/18 NOON REPLAY
4/20 8PM REPLAY
4/21 NOON REPLAY

JOINT RDA SESSION: 4/24 7PM LIVE
4/25 NOON REPLAY
4/27 8PM REPLAY
4/28 NOON REPLAY

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION: 4/9 7PM LIVE
4/10 NOON REPLAY
4/13 8PM REPLAY
4/14 NOON REPLAY

REGULAR SESSION: 4/23 7PM LIVE
4/24 NOON REPLAY
4/27 NOON REPLAY
4/28 8PM REPLAY

RECYCLING HOUR FOR KIDS & ADULTS 9:30AM & 4:30PM DAILY
FRIDAY 7PM

WATERWISE GARDENING 10:30AM & 5:30PM DAILY
FRIDAY 8:00PM

FUGITIVE WATCH 11:15AM, & 6:15PM DAILY
SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S MOST WANTED FRIDAY 8:45PM

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Daylight Savings Time Change • April 7

Spring Forward: Set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to sleep.

Compost Workshop • April 20

Attendees of Morgan Hill Home Composting workshops discover the benefits of gardening using their own compost. The next class is scheduled for Saturday, April 7, from 10AM-12Noon at the YMCA. To register for this free workshop, call the Home Composting Education Program at 918-4640.

Earth Day • April 22

Earth Day, Every Day

City Beautification Day • April 20

See page 6 for more information.

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR **Dennis Kennedy** 779-7259
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE **Larry Carr** 779-9622
COUNCILMEMBER **Hedy L. Chang** 778-0511
COUNCILMEMBER **Greg Sellers** 778-2370
COUNCILMEMBER **Steve Tate** 779-6992
CITY CLERK **Irma Torrez** 779-7259
CITY TREASURER **Michael Roorda** 778-3653

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF

CITY MANAGER **J. Edward Tewes**
CITY ATTORNEY **Helene L. Leichter**
ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER **Melissa Stevenson Dile**
ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER **Anthony Eulo**
BUSINESS ASSISTANCE/HOUSING SERVICES DIRECTOR **Garrett Toy**
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR **David Bischoff**
COUNCIL SERVICES AND RECORDS MANAGER **Irma Torrez**
FINANCE DIRECTOR **Jack Dilles**
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR **Mary Kaye Fisher**
POLICE CHIEF **Gerald T. Galvin**
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR **Jim Ashcraft**
RECREATION MANAGER **Julie Spier**

CONTACTING YOUR CITY

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM

Address: 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Animal Control 776-7300
Building Inspection 779-7241
Business Assistance & Housing Services 776-7373
City Clerk 779-7259
City Manager 779-7271
Environmental Programs 779-7247
Finance 779-7237
Fire Department (County Fire) 378-4010
Job Hotline 779-7276
Planning: Land Use / Zoning 779-7247
Police Administration 776-7315
Public Works 776-7337
Recreation 779-7271
Water 779-7221
Volunteer Programs 779-7278

City Hall Fax Number 779-3117

City Website: <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Questions or comments about City Visions are welcome. Contact Editor Anthony Eulo at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov. City Visions is published monthly by the City of Morgan Hill.



LOOK INSIDE:

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Household Hazardous Waste

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Yard Trimmings Recycling

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City Beautification Day

A beautiful world starts at home.

Sight Pollution?

Is that "Garage Sale" sign illegal?



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Simple things, like not polluting our streams with motor oil and putting your cans and bottles into your recycling bin, can make a big difference.

Did you know The City of Morgan Hill offers it's residents and businesses free recycling programs? These programs include:

*Business Recycling Programs Such As:

Cardboard, Beverage Container, Mixed Paper and Restaurant Food Waste Recycling, Informational Signs, Bilingual Janitor Instructions, Irrigation Technical Assistance and Green Business Program Certification.

*Curbside/Residential Recycling Such As:

Plastic, Aseptic, Metal Can, Glass, Cardboard, Mixed Paper, Newspapers, Yard Waste, Used Oil & Oil Filter Recycling

*Multi Family Complex Recycling Programs

*Hazardous Waste Disposal Programs

*Recycling Days

...and the best part? they're free.

If you need more information about any of the recycling programs offered through The City of Morgan Hill, it's as simple as calling 779.7247.

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Morgan Hill City Visions



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



THE CITY HAS A NEW LOGO



WORRIED ABOUT YOUR WATER?



BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH OLD PAINT?



WHAT ABOUT THAT OLD COMPUTER ?



RECYCLE DAYS ARE COMING!

Also in this issue: A special pull out section which includes information on the the upcoming Recycling Days as well as helpful articles on Yard Trimming Recycling, Household Hazardous Waste Disposal and our Local Sign Ordinance.

ART a la carte

THIS YEAR at the 3rd annual Art ala Carte event, children from ages five through eleven, will have the opportunity to create up to fifteen different art projects. This hands-on art event will be held on Saturday, May 11th from 11 am to 3 pm. Sponsors and volunteers are needed. For more information, please contact the City of Morgan Hill Recreation Division 779-7271.



CITY VISIONS
CITY OF MORGAN HILL
17555 PEAK AVENUE
MORGAN HILL, CA 95037

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MORGAN HILL, CA
PERMIT NO. 20

TO: MORGAN HILL RESIDENT